

HOUSE BILL 2885

By Bone

AN ACT to name a segment of the Baddour Parkway (U.S. Highway 70) in Wilson County in honor of the late Private Billy Edward Stevenson.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to name certain highways and bridges to honor the memory of those courageous members of the United States Armed Forces who gave their lives in the defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, no person is more deserving of this honor than the late Private Billy Edward Stevenson; and

WHEREAS, Private Stevenson followed the patriotic tradition for which Wilson County and the Volunteer State are renowned by serving with distinction as a soldier; and

WHEREAS, like thousands of others of this nation's sons and daughters, Private Stevenson did not shrink from serving in combat, believing in the justice of the cause to protect our national security and liberty; and

WHEREAS, Private Stevenson served with dignity, dedication, courage, and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States armed forces, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of the citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Private Stevenson's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly wishes to name a segment of the Baddour Parkway (U.S. Highway 70) in his native Wilson County to permanently commemorate the singular patriotism, courage, and commitment to duty of the late Private Billy Edward Stevenson; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the segment of the Baddour Parkway (U.S. Highway 70) in Wilson County from such route's intersection with Rome Pike southward to its intersection with U.S. Highway 70N (Carthage Highway) is hereby designated as the "Private Billy Edward Stevenson Memorial Parkway" in recognition of the life of valor and death in combat of Private First Billy Edward Stevenson.

SECTION 2. The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating the bridge described in Section 1 as the "Private Billy Edward Stevenson Memorial Parkway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated, § 54-1-133.

SECTION 3. The erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices*.

SECTION 4. This act shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the Commissioner of Transportation in writing that the provisions of this act shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

SECTION 5. The appellation "Private Billy Edward Stevenson Memorial Parkway" provided for in this act is for honorary purposes only and nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the alteration of any address, or the governmental system for assigning addresses, in any county, municipality or other governmental entity affected by this act.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.